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tape 1b

am not too far off in what I am about to tell you. The contract was structured in such a way that as the bottoms of other companies became obsolete, they could only be replaced with Onassis' tankers. Even ARAMCO had to, by attrition, within a period of four-and-a-half to five-and-a-half years, would have, if their tankers became obsolete, they could only be replaced by Onassis tankers.

Our statistics, after having studied the contract and making what we considered to be proper projections, indicated that at the completion of approximately five-and-a-half years, Mr. Onassis would control more dead weight tonnage than the United States controlled in its entirety, that he would control on the high seas annually more oil by tens of thousands of gallons more than were used by all of the Allied nations during the most severe year of the Korean War, that in the first year his profit would be approximately $17 million dollars, that after five-and-a-half years his annual profit would be in the area of $200 million.

While this analysis is going on, we also found that a million dollar pay-off had been made to one of the top ministers in Saudi Arabia and we had the evidence [redacted].

We then prepared our inputs and presented them to the

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National Security Council --

Senator Huddleston. Of the United States?

Mr. Maheu. -- of the United States, and within a matter, I believe, of forty-eight hours, our State Department denounced the agreement. It was the first time that anyone had actually seen what this meant, and frankly, there was an innate fear that with the initial $17 million, then there would be no way of stopping, I mean, he might go to Venezuela and do the same thing, and there were also other inputs about the background of Mr. Onassis that I would just as soon not make a matter of record, but they were not too favorable, that we presented to the National Security Council verbally but not in writing.

Mr. Madigan. Who made the presentation?

Senator Schweiker. What subsequently happened then with the Security Council denunciation, et cetera?

Mr. Madigan. The State Department denounced the agreement and that same evening we were told that two [redacted] officials were on their way to Saudi Arabia.

Then I proceeded to dig up the gentleman by the name of Carl Twitchell by virtue of reading about the country, because I'm not about ready to go there and not know about the customs and the formation of the country. I dug up a man by the name of Carl Twitchell who was living in Connecticut who turned out to be the first American who had ever really been accepted by

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old King Saud. Mr. Twitchell had spent time in the country as a mining engineer to help them in the exploitation of mines. It was in fact to Carl Twitchell that the old king gave the power of attorney to come to the United States government or come back to the United States and try to form a consortium for the exploitation of oil from which emanated ARAMCO.

Carl was the type of man who was only reimbursed for his expenses. I think his total expenses were slightly in excess of $8,000. He didn't even keep the banking and percentage for himself, or a piece of the action, so to speak, and he was highly, highly loved by the Saudis and although the old king was then gone and King Saud, the son, was in power, Mr. Twitchell had the same respect and reverence from the present leaders as he did from the father and I convinced Mr. Twitchell that -- he already had a clearance, a satisfactory clearance, and I convinced him to precede me to Saudi Arabia to try to lay the groundwork.

Senator Schweiker. What year was this, roughly?

Mr. Maheu. This, I believe, was in '54 or '55, yes.

Anyway, I finally ended up going to Saudi Arabia, having a meeting with the King's confidential assistant, presenting all of this evidence, frankly at the time not knowing if the King himself had a piece of the action --

Senator Huddleston. Had some of this evidence come from the wiretap?

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Mr. Maheu. That tap was entirely unproductive, entirely unproductive.

Senator Schweiker. What happened then at your meeting?

Mr. Maheu. Well, it's very interesting, if we could take a little time, I mean, I was scheduled to have the meeting "with the King," but he doesn't show, he stays somewhere else and the confidential assistant shows up and one trusted minister that he had with [redacted] present.

And my meeting was scheduled for 8:00 p.m. one night, and this happaned to be the last day that the King was supposed to be in Jidda, he was then leaving for the capital further inland, Jidda being the only major port in Saudi where he spends his summers, and they were having a big parade for him, and from the balcony of the hotel, I'm watching the parade go by, and finally the King's car comes and he is arm and arm with the man on whom I'm going to give the evidence that night, and I frankly was not too comfortable, particularly in view of the fact that in those days -- and I don't know whether it has changed, but in Saudi, the same document did not give you permission to enter and leave; you had to make application for an exit visa after you arrived, and I was in constant contact with the then-United States Ambassador. He made it very clear that the government approved of everything I was doing, but if something went wrong they could not come to my rescue, I would have to be the fall guy, and I was prepared to do it. That was

Saudi Arabian government would have its flag flying the high seas, and at the time that all of this is going on they are building what then, upon completion of production, had been the biggest tanker in the world at that time, a ship named after the old King, a tanker which was scheduled to go and take a maiden flight and take off, and it turned out the biggest problem that we had was to find a save-face gimmick. But finally the whole thing was accomplished, and it took two and a half years to do it.

Senator Schweiker. I didn't mean to get you off the track.

Mr. Maheu. Well, I'm sorry I am so verbose.

Senator Huddleston. You said you bought a paper in Athens? You mean by that you actually bought the paper or just paid them to run the story?

Mr. Maheu. We bought a newspaper.

You'll have to understand, Senator, that in Rome, in those days, there were fifty newspapers. I mean, the big circulation in those days, big circulation in Rome was 20,000. It's hard for us to visualize that.

Senator Huddleston. The CIA supplied the money to buy the newspaper?

Mr. Maheu. Yes.

Can we go off the record?

Senator Schweiker. Yes.

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Mr. Liebengood. Was this listening post that you referred to, was that a project that was related to work for the Central Intelligence Agency?

Mr. Maheu. I don't believe it was.

Mr. Madigan. Did you have any New York assignments other than Onassis that you gave to Frank?

Mr. Maheu. I don't remember any.

Mr. Madigan. How about [redacted] I may have asked you that yesterday. Do you recall whether he had any relationship with your company during the 1950's?

Mr. Maheu. I don't remember a [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. A CIA employee.

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall his name.

Mr. Madigan. I got sidetracked off of my question of whether you recall a prosecution or an investigation of the Onassis wiretap. You may have already have answered that.

Mr. Maheu. I think I did, yes.

Mr. Madigan. What did you say?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I appeared before a Grand Jury that was investigating Mr. Frank on another matter.

Mr. Madigan. On another matter, but you had no recollection of any investigation of that particular tap?

Mr. Maheu. No, I don't.

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Mr. Madigan. Either an investigation of you or Frank or Leone or anyone?

Mr. Maheu. No, I don't.

Mr. Madigan. No interviews by the FBI?

Mr. Maheu. It's conceivable, but I don't remember it.

Mr. Madigan. You don't remember it?

Mr. Maheu. No.

Mr. Madigan. Let's go off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

tape 2a

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Yes, sir.

Mr. Madigan. And what were you asked to do with regard to that?

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]s.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

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Mr. Maheu. Yes, I did.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I do not have any recollection.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I don't have any recollection.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. Now can you date that assignment as sometime in 1956 or '57, does that sound about right, or do you have any recollection of what year it was?

Mr. Maheu. I don't have any recollection. It was before

1960.

Mr. Madigan. It was sometime after you had begun in '54 with your Agency operation?

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. Or your sponsorship?

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. Subsequently, did this Leader "A" come to the United States to your knowledge after this?

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall whether he came subsequently or prior to.

Mr. Madigan. When the same leader did come to the United States, were you involved in any assignment for the CIA with regard to his presence in the country?

Mr. Maheu. Yes, I was.

Mr. Madigan. And what was that assignment?

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. Who was the Agency representative that gave you this assignment? Did you go through Mr. O'Connell, or was

it someone different?

Mr. Maheu. This request emanated from, directly from the State Department.

Mr. Madigan. Who in the State Department?

Mr. Maheu. Mr. Scott McCloud, who was then Director of the Office of Security and Consular Affairs.

Mr. Madigan. Was it coordinated with the CIA, or was this strictly between yourself and the State Department?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that the CIA was kept apprised, however that the coordination was with the State Department, in connection with the security that was being provided for this leader during his visit to the United States.

Mr. Madigan. Did you meet with the State Department or CIA people or both in New York City when the leader arrived there?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I met with Security Personnel of the State Department.

Mr. Madigan. What did you do in New York for this assignment?

(Pause)

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

Mr. Madigan. And did you meet with the New York police with regard to the assignment?

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

Mr. Madigan. Did you obtain or send over any females over

[redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday that you [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. No, I don't.

Mr. Madigan. Did you travel from New York to any other city with this leader?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I did.

Mr. Madigan. What occurred when you arrived at the other cities?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I contacted the security representatives of the State Department.

Mr. Madigan. And after you contacted the security representatives, what were you supposed to do in these other cities?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I, through local Police Department officials or law enforcement officials [redacted] not be a security risk insofar as the national security of our government was concerned.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I don't know what you mean [redacted] Mr. Madigan.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]?

Mr. Maheu. That is my recollection, yes.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]?

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday that you did?

Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday when I asked you whether someone had travelled from city to city, you indicated that you thought maybe one did, but you weren't sure about how many others.

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. How many cities did you visit during the trip that this Leader "A" made?

Mr. Maheu. Several cities.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

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Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

Mr. Madigan. Do you recall telling me yesterday that they were?

Mr. Maheu. Do you recall yesterday identifying the leader?

Mr. Madigan. I do.

Let's go off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That they may have been, yes.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. And that occurred in New York and the other cities that he stayed at while he was in the United States?

Mr.Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted] --

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Mr. Maheu. No.

Mr. Madigan. But, you did not bring a crowd of six or seven.

Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that [redacted] travelled with me, may have travelled independently, but I have no recollection of being on the same plane with any of these people.

Mr. Madigan. You think may have traveled from city to city, or four or five?

Mr. Maheu. One may have gone to one further city. That is the best of my recollection.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That's my recollection.

Mr. Madigan. Is that the theory of the project?

Mr. Maheu. That's my recollection.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Yes, I did.

Mr. Madigan. Do you remember when that assignment was in terms of whether it was before or after this visit to the United States?

Mr. Maheu. Subsequent to his visit to the United States

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he made a trip to Russia. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. As a result of that, what assignment did you receive, if any, from the CIA?

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Yes, I did.

Mr. Madigan. Who was that?

Mr.Maheu. [redacted]

[redacted].

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection. I can't believe that where you would find [redacted], I don't believe so no.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. Was that Bautzer?

Mr. Maheu. No, sir.

Mr. Madigan. Who was that?

Mr. Maheu. First I discussed the matter with Howard Hughes and he recommended that I contact Mr. Larry Crosby, which I did.

Mr. Madigan. Did Hughes have to approve your being involved in this?

Mr. Maheu. I am not sure he had to approve. I was just seeking his advice.

Mr. Madigan. You were more or less just telling him about it?

Mr. Maheu. I beg your pardon?

Mr. Madigan. You were just telling him about it?

Mr. Maheu. No, Mr. Hughes had been in the industry, he had been in movie studios, I thought he could be helpful to this contract.

Mr. Madigan. Did you deal with O'Connell with regard to this contract or with somebody else?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that I dealt with Mr. O'Connell and Colonel Edwards.

Mr. Madigan. Colonel Edwards?

[redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I really don't remember. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. [redacted] a [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. By today's technology, I would say definitely no.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted] [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Not at all.

Mr. Madigan. Not at all?

Mr. Maheu. Not at all.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

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Mr. Maheu. I don't recall, but my recollection is [redacted] was highly respected by the law enforcement authorities. Whether [redacted] was an informant for them or what the relationship was, I don't know.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Very short.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. No, I did not.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

Mr. Madigan. And thereafter do you know what happened [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

Mr. Madigan. Were you told what was going to be done [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. Were you ever familiar with the project names that were attached to these assignments by the CIA?

Mr. Maheu. Not that I recollect, no.

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Mr. Madigan. Did you ever hear of project Happy Days?

Mr. Maheu. No.

Mr. Madigan. Or Project Harp Star?

Mr. Maheu. No.

Mr. Madigan. Or Project Norfok?

Mr. Maheu. No.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Yes, sir.

Mr. Madigan. What was your assignment in that regard?

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. And who did you contact with regard to that?

Mr. Maheu. I contacted Mr. Gregson Bautzer.

Mr. Madigan. Is that B-a-u-t-z-e-r?

Mr. Maheu. B-a-u-t-z-e-r, a Hollywood attorney.

Mr. Madigan. And did he hold the [redacted] that you refer to?

Mr. Maheu. Yes, he did.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that the intent was to

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[redacted]

Mr. Madigan. [redacted] --

Mr. Maheu. [redacted].

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That is correct.

[redacted]

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. [redacted].

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that I was asked.

Mr. Madigan. Do you know who that person was?

Mr. Maheu. I do not recall the name.

Mr. Madigan. You indicated that your recollection was that there was some [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. Was your assignment in that regard solely [redacted] was that the end of it?

Mr. Maheu. That is my recollection of it, yes.

Mr. Madigan. Did you have any other assignments with regard to that Leader "B"?

Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection.

Mr. Madigan. Did you have any other assignments with regard to Leader "A"?

Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that I did.

Mr. Madigan. Did you undertake any other Agency assignments with regard to any other leader of any other country?

Mr. Maheu. I have no recollection that I did.

Mr. Madigan. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. That name is familiar, yes, now that you mention it.

Mr. Madigan. Do you think [redacted] might have been the person?

Mr. Maheu. I think [redacted] might have been, yes.

Mr. Madigan. Did you contact Howard Hughes with regard to that assignment?

Mr. Maheu. No, I did not. However, Mr. Bautzer was, in those days, Mr. Hughes' personal attorney.

Mr. Madigan. Would you date that [redacted] assignment as being around 1959?

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall. It was before 1960, but that would sound approximately right.

Mr. Madigan. Did you ever have your office in Washington used for cover purposes by the CIA?

Mr. Maheu. Yes, I have.

Mr. Madigan. Do you know on how many occasions?

Mr. Maheu. On several occasions.

Mr. Madigan. Do you know what the purpose of the agent that would be using it for cover was?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that my role was limited simply to fund their income. In other words, they would be on the payroll of Robert A. Maheu Associates and that I would be reimbursed the exact amount of their payroll.

As to the specific assignments, I have no recollection.

Mr. Madigan. What types of duties would they have for

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an employee who was working in [redacted] at some point in their career?

Mr. Maheu. Yes, we did.

Mr. Madigan. Would you recall that to be around 1968, or do you have a specific recollection?

Mr. Maheu. It would be about that time.

Mr. Madigan. About that time.

Mr. Maheu. Yes.

Mr. Madigan. And did you ever hear of the name [redacted] with regard to that cover arrangement? [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall. My recollection is that the guy's name was [redacted] but I don't recall the name [redacted] Perhaps he was placed on the payroll as [redacted] but I don't recall.

Mr. Madigan. You did not address him as [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. No, not to my recollection.

Mr. Madigan. What was he supposed to be doing in [redacted] do you know?

Mr. Maheu. Covertly or overtly?

Mr. Madigan. Both.

Let's start with covertly.

Mr. Maheu. Covertly he was -- he had an assignment from the Agency which I don't know. Overtly he was an employee of Robert A. Maheu Associates trying to exploit the possibility of business ventures in the country [redacted]

Mr. Madigan. You have no inclination or no feeling at all for what his assignment was?

Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

Mr. Madigan. In covert terms whether it was an espionage assignment or whether it was a PR kind of assignment? No idea?

Mr. Maheu. I don't know.

Mr. Madigan. Was there ever an island involved with that assignment to your knowledge?

Mr. Maheu. Not to my knowledge or recollection.

Mr. Madigan. You never heard of an island called [redacted] have you?

Mr. Maheu. Not to my recollection.

Mr. Madigan. During the 1960's did you employ a fellow by the name of Jack Buckley? We may have discussed this before.

Mr. Maheu. I believe that from time to time a Jack Buckley did work for Robert A. Maheu Associates. I don't believe he was an employee.

Mr. Madigan. Would he be on a kind of an intermittent contract basis like Frank was? You would use him every once in awhile?

Mr. Maheu. My recollection is that he did some work for Robert A. Maheu Associates and, as I say, not an employee.

Mr. Madigan. Do you know what types of assignments he did?

Mr. Liebengood. Mr. Mort Jackson?

Mr. Maheu. I don't remember his name.

Mr. Madigan. Mort Jackson being an attorney --

Mr. Liebengood. -- in Los Angeles.

Mr. Al Long of the Secret Service?

Mr. Maheu. Don't remember his name.

Mr. Liebengood. [redacted] formerly of the Central Intelligence Agency, a resident of Florida.

Mr. Maheu. Don't remember his name.

Mr. Liebengood. [redacted]

Mr. Maheu. Don't remember his name.

Mr. Liebengood. James McCord?

Mr. Maheu. Only what I saw in the newspapers.

Mr. Liebengood. But you had no dealings with him while you were in Washington?

Mr. Maheu. Not to my recollection.

Mr. Madigan. Just briefly, in that regard, we discussed yesterday whether you had any recollection of Mr. McCord being involved -- or at least I think we discussed it -- in any either sweeping of your office or electronic equipment or using of your office as a listening post or anything like that?

Mr. Maheu. I don't remember.

Mr. Madigan. And your indication was you didn't have any recollection?

Mr. Maheu. No.

payroll, and for the second time I was turned down by Mr. Hughes. I believe it was in September of 1969 that I finally called Mr. Meier in and requested his resignation and then I informed Mr. Hughes that he had resigned.

After the departure of Mr. Meier, while going through his files, Mr. Ellson ran into some documents that indicated some very serious double escrows on mining properties and we recommended to Mr. Hughes that all the information be made available to the authorities and let the chips fall where they may.

Mr. Liebengood. Do you know why Mr. Hughes was not inclined to follow your recommendations with regards to Meier's termination at earlier dates?

Mr. Maheu. He was afraid that Meier would embarrass him. At least, that is what he told me.

Mr. Liebengood. You are aware of no CIA interest in Meier?

Mr. Maheu. The only thing I know is that Meier was cut in on the cover of [redacted] and was aware of that operation.

Mr. Liebengood. How did that come about? How was he cut in on that?

Mr. Maheu. Because it was he who initially had worked on a deal for a venture in Mexico on the part of Hughes Aircraft for cable television and subsequent to -- well, when that

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collapsed, the person who was to be the partner of Hughes Aircraft in that particular venture threatened to sue Howard Hughes and all of the Hughes interest for non-fulfillment of contract, and I made a recommendation to that person whose name slips my mind, but I believe his last name was Jamie, J-a-m-i-e or something like that, I don't recall. But to try to discourage him from filing such a lawsuit I suggested that he and I put up $10,000 in [redacted] and check into the possibility of developing business there.

I put up my ten, he never put his up, and Meier was the one who was involved. But when the Agency needed a cover for an assignment in [redacted] Meier was made privy of this by the Agency.

tape 3b

Mr. Liebengood. Just to be certain I understand, this was because of Meier's role in reestablishing the operation in [redacted] Is that correct?

Mr. Maheu. Well, of trying to save the lawsuit, yes. That's right.

Mr. Liebengood. And you think the name of this would-be partner was Jamie?

Mr. Maheu. I don't remember whether that was the first name or last name.

Mr. Liebengood. How did [redacted] whatever way do you spell his last name, do you recall?

Mr. Maheu. I don't recall.

Mr. Liebengood. Do you know who accompanied Meier and F. Donald Nixon on this trip to the Dominican Republic, the celebrated trip?

Mr. Maheu. No, I do not.

Mr. Liebengood. As far as you know, they had nothing to do with any Agency interest in that?

Mr. Maheu. No, sir, not as far as I know.

As a matter of fact, it's my recollection I found out about this afterwards.

Mr. Liebengood. Who else was witting of the cover arrangements that you had with the Agency through Robert A. Maheu Associates? You mentioned Meier and this particular one. Did you have other employees who were witting of the cover?

Mr. Maheu. I believe Bill Staton was aware of some of it.

Mr. Liebengood. And did he keep your books?

Mr. Maheu. Yes.

Mr. Liebengood. And outside of the [redacted] Meier was not witting of any other cover arrangements, I take it?

Mr. Maheu. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Liebengood. Do you recall who the other personnel were through the years that obtained Robert A. Maheu Associates cover for the Agency?

Mr. Maheu. I don't.